

The Knowledge Bank at The Ohio State University
Ohio State Engineer

Title: The Bookshelf

Issue Date: Jan-1930

Publisher: Ohio State University, College of Engineering

Citation: Ohio State Engineer, vol. 13, no. 3 (January, 1930), 18, 30-32.

URI: <http://hdl.handle.net/1811/34653>

Appears in Collections: [Ohio State Engineer: Volume 13, no. 3 \(January, 1930\)](#)

THE BOOKSHELF

RED LIKKER

By IRVIN S. COBB

In *Red Likker* Irvin Cobb breaks away from his usual humorous story to give us a history of Kentucky from its earliest days up to modern times. The history, as the title suggests, has to deal mostly with the evolution of the old Bourbon for which Kentucky was so justly famous. How this "red likker" was first discovered, how its manufacture grew to great proportions, and finally how prohibition caused the downfall of a great industry are all pictured here against a background of love, hate, and humor. I said at first that Mr. Cobb had broken away from his humor in this story, but that is only half right for the very plot of the tale is based on humor. Still the book is not bubbling over with witticisms as is usual with him.

The way in which the red Bourbon was first discovered smacks of fun and reminds one slightly of Charles Lamb's famous essay on roast pig. However the greater part of the story is very serious and deals with the life of Colonel Attila Bird and his adopted son, Morgan. The Civil War enters the story at the very beginning while the Great War is one of the closing incidents. The coming of prohibition after the last war and its effect on the people of "Kaintucky" is a very serious thing. Such men as Colonel Bird were proud of the fact that they could drink regularly every day and yet never get drunk. Colonel Bird himself considered that his chosen profession, that of making the sour mash, was as honorable as any in the country and more honorable than many.

Taken all in all, this is a very entertaining and a very edifying book and one well worth taking the time to read. The writer knows his subject and the territory about which he writes.

R. M. E.

CONEY ISLAND

By HERMAN CROY

At last a story has been written about that well-known and at the same time mysterious place of joy and grief which we know as Coney Island. Mr. Croy tells us in his book *Coney Island* of a great deal that happens behind the scenes there. To quote the author, "the book is as full of the peculiar flavor of Coney Island as a Bermuda onion is full of taste." We quite agree that the book tells of much that happens there that is not seen by the public, and one can almost sniff its permeating odor of fried frankfurters.

The story hinges about a boy from the country who comes to New York to market his invention, a giant ride for amusement parks. How he meets people, falls in love with two girls at the same time, and meets with various adventures makes up the plot. The subject matter is quite common, the story reading almost like a Horatio Alger book. There is, however, an unusual twist in that the villain is really no villain at all; indeed, we think that the villain and the hero should exchange places, for Mr. Zimmerman, "the King of Coney

Island" as he is called, does quite a few heroic things while the supposed hero, Mr. Chic Colton, pulls off some escapades of which he should not be proud.

The story is interesting as a description of Coney Island and for the insight it gives into the life behind the scenes at that much visited place. For this reason it is worth reading, although in itself it is not much of a story.

J. F. P.

THE LIGHT OF THE SKY

By HERBERT CLOCK AND ERIC BOETZEL

Here is a fantastic, startling, exotic and unbelievable tale. A tale that is riding the crest of the wave of mystery stories which at the present time seem to be flooding the market.

The story tells things which we think cannot be true and yet they are told so vividly and so realistically that when we are first reading them we are for the minute quite ready to believe them and rest content that the future is explained.

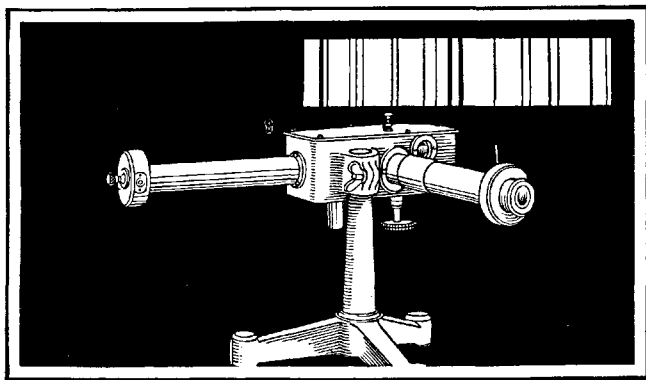
While *The Light of the Sky* is a story of the future, it does not deal with any of the convenient time devices used by many authors, but with ordinary sunlight. The story is written so that it can be understood by anyone and for that reason is a very good one. Sunlight is made to do everything from governing the life of a race of people to giving them perpetual youth.

It goes back to about four hundred years ago, beginning when Cortez was storming the City of Mexico, during the Aztec revolution in which he was killed. A portion of the inhabitants, including Montezuma's family, a captured warrior of Cortez, and Tujoc, the high priest, escape from the city and take refuge in a huge cavern. They make it a habitable abode and live there for a decade. Tujoc, who is the master mind and to my mind the real hero of the story, discovers the secret of life and light and eternal youth.

Then we come up to date, at the end of the great war. By this time a great metropolis has been erected and remains unknown and unsuspected by all the civilized world. Tujoc all this time has kept in touch with the civilized world and all its scientific achievements. Not being satisfied with his discoveries he desires to penetrate the mysteries of death. He believes he can follow the journeys of the soul into the land beyond if the soul of the person selected is religious and of the right nature. Because of this he has been watching several persons from birth and his choice has finally narrowed down to one who is a descendant of Cortez.

He is kidnapped in Paris and carried to the underground cave. Here he meets Don Juan, a soldier of Cortez who thinks Tujoc is still alive, and the explanations offered to him he believes. Tujoc wills it that he and the daughter of Montezuma, the Princess Tinemah, fall in love. By reason of this love he expects to uncover the soul's secret. As the hour approaches for the experiment Tujoc

(Continued on page 30)



B. & L. Laboratory Wavelength Spectrometer

Super-Eyes of Industry

In the relentless sweep of modern industrial progress, the engineer today finds ever greater need for the assistance of optical science. Countless processes call for the increased accuracy in control of raw materials and finished products that can come only from precision optical instruments of special design.

Today, Bausch & Lomb supply special optical instruments to a wide variety of industries. In many instances, these Bausch & Lomb products have effected pronounced economies and radically improved accuracy.

Let us consult with you concerning your specific optical requirements.

BAUSCH & LOMB OPTICAL CO.

635 St. Paul St.



Rochester, N. Y.

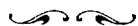
Burgess & Niple Engineers

The Burnip Construction Co.
Contractors for
Municipal Improvements

568 East Broad St.

Columbus, Ohio

College and Commercial Printing



ARTCRAFT PRINTING COMPANY

Phone UN-2987

1137 North High Street

BOOKSHELF

(Continued from page 18)

has the hero stretched out on the stone for sacrifice and succeeds in partially removing the soul when a rival for the princess' hand stabs him. The hero is then left in the painful predicament of having no soul. However, Tujoc, with his last breath, succeeds in returning the partially removed soul to the hero's body and at the same time unleashes the enormous amount of sunlight that he has stored up against emergencies. The destruction of the city follows, with the hero and princess escaping as the sole survivors. They return to England and live to a ripe old age.

Mr. Clock and Mr. Boetzel are two authors who are unknown to most of us, but that they have talent and quite a vivid imagination is apparent by this story. The simplicity of the tale makes it ring true, and we recommend it for an evening of good entertainment.

J. F. P.

THE RADIO MANUAL

By GEO. E. STERLING

With the advent of any new science or art, there is sure to appear a large number of books on the subject. So it was with radio.

Almost all such books may be placed into two general classifications. There is the non-technical type, which deals with the operation, repair, and maintenance of radio apparatus; and the technical type which is concerned with the theory of design and operation of the apparatus. Each type attempts to fill its own particular need. Although it contains quite a great deal of elementary theory of design and operation, *The Radio Manual* is essentially a practical book.

Like most books of its type, it begins with the electron theory and continues on through elementary electricity, taking up the more important fundamental laws and principles of electricity in general and radio in particular. The first chapter on electricity and magnetism is one of the most complete and certainly the most clear of any that has come to the attention of the writer.

This book can honestly be recommended to anyone who wishes to know more about radio. Whether he is the uninitiated layman or the most sophisticated, without doubt he will find something new and interesting in this book.

It is edited by Robert Kruse, of short wave fame. Mr. Kruse has a background of practical as well as technical experience which makes him well qualified for the task. D. Van Nostrand Co. is the publisher.

F. H. T.

TWENTY-FOUR BOOKS—ONE REVIEW

"A genuine mahogany bookcase with every Encyclopedia . . . Send for 56-page booklet giving full particulars."

But never a hint as to price. It is not to be wondered at that I expected the new 14th edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica with all its advertised embellishments to be almost prohibitively expensive. Perhaps the library of the Ohio State University would be able to buy one set. I wasn't sure.

The advertisement had whetted my curiosity, but not to the point of sending for the 56-page booklet. One day I happened to see Mr. Man-

(Continued on page 32)

1855 • SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY • 1930

Measuring the progress of 75 years

From small shops to vast factories . . . from blacksmith's forge to six-ton electric furnaces . . . from Joule's theory of heat to superheat . . . from guesswork to science . . . from waste to economy—these hint the revolution in industry since 1855.

The growth of Crane Co. through these years is a significant reflection of the growth of all industry. From a one-man shop founded three-quarters of a century ago, it has grown to a world organization, meeting in its own factories the power and production problems that have

faced other manufacturers. Supplying the piping materials that have released power, effected economies, and increased production everywhere, it has of necessity met and solved piping problems as they have arisen in all industries.

Now in its 75th anniversary year, it serves all industries with the materials developed, the knowledge and experience gained. To engineering students, its customers of the future, it offers a valuable reference book and research manual on metal reactions under high pressure and superheat: "Pioneering in Science." Write for it.

Valves



CRANE



Fittings

CRANE CO., GENERAL OFFICES: 836 S. MICHIGAN AVE., CHICAGO

NEW YORK OFFICE: 23 W. 44TH ST.

Branches and Sales Offices in One Hundred and Ninety Cities

There is a
Tycos or
Taylor
Temperature
Instrument
for every
purpose

Taylor Instrument Companies
ROCHESTER, N. Y., U. S. A.

Tycos Temperature
Instruments
INDICATING - RECORDING - CONTROLLING

THE SIXTH SENSE OF INDUSTRY

JANUARY, 1930

THE MOUNT VERNON BRIDGE CO.

Engineers and Manufacturers

of

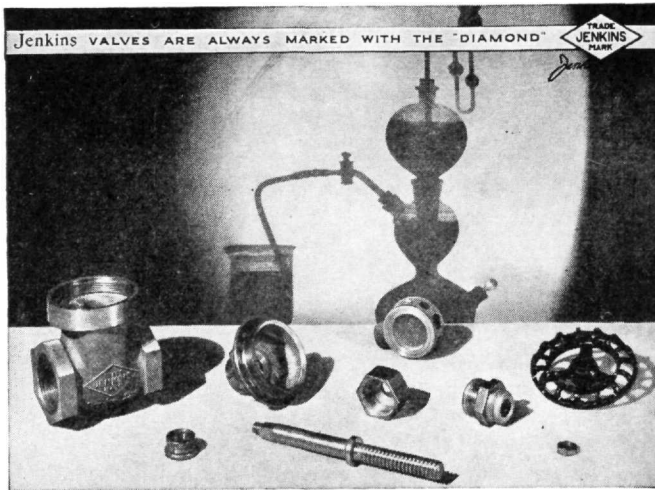
Iron and Steel Mill Buildings and
Structural Work, Railway and
Highway Bridges, Roofs,
Viaducts, Etc.



Builders of the Structural Steel Work
in the Ohio Stadium



MT. VERNON, OHIO



Analyze a Jenkins

Take a Jenkins Valve apart and analyze it. If it happens to be a Fig. 370, Jenkins Standard Bronze Gate Valve, your analysis will show that the valve is made up of nine metal parts, and asbestos packing.

Note first, how the body, which is cast of virgin metal, is designed symmetrically in both transverse and longitudinal sections to assure intimate contact between the gate and seat. Examine the well turned spindle with strong square threading. The sturdy bonnet, packing nut and the carefully machined wedge.

This simple inspection shows the reason for that long, efficient performance for which Jenkins are noted—performance so unvaryingly dependable that engineers have come to accept Jenkins Valves as standard.



Send for a booklet descriptive of Jenkins Valves for any type of building in which you may be interested.

JENKINS BROS.

80 White Street . . . New York, N.Y.
524 Atlantic Avenue . . . Boston, Mass.
133 No. Seventh Street . . . Philadelphia, Pa.
646 Washington Boulevard . . . Chicago, Ill.
JENKINS BROS., LIMITED
Montreal, Canada . . . London, England

Jenkins
VALVES
Since 1864

BOOKSHELF

(Continued from page 30)

chester, the University librarian, and just asked him whether the Library had received the Encyclopedia, and how much it cost.

"About \$110," was his answer. And then he told me that the Library had obtained three full sets of the 14th edition, one for the main building and sets for the two leading branches. In all probability, too, if the Engineers had their unified technical library somewhere on the quadrangle, a library that could furnish full information and be open all day and evenings (instead of the piddling branches in Lord Hall, Brown Hall, and elsewhere) an extra encyclopedia would have been obtained for their use. But that conjecture, while justified, is another story. I went to the main library.

A matter of particular interest to the engineers of The Ohio State University is that the section on engineering drawing (under drawing in the book) has the initials T. E. F. Professor Thomas E. French? Certainly, no other. The drawings that go with the article are very fine, too. People who have studied drawing, as well as those who haven't, will find their impressions clarified by French's comprehensive summary of the subject.

The articles on engineering are interesting, although many related subjects are treated under separate heads and Engineering itself seems just a little abbreviated. That's not surprising, since Engineering is comprehensive enough for a respectable encyclopedia of its own in several volumes. A narrow British viewpoint is shown in the article on engineering societies which tells in detail of such organizations in Great Britain and then dismisses the rest of the world (including Canada, The United States, and Australia) in a few brief paragraphs. Such inappropriate nationalism, so out of place because the Britons form so small a part of the English-speaking peoples who use the encyclopedia, is rarely encountered, however, and most Americans will feel that the subjects discussed are fairly treated without regard to nation or race.

—J. M. W.

Right now, it seems, would be an appropriate time to read Robert Irving Warshaw's new book, *The Story of Wall Street*. It is a story of Wall Street and the men who made it.

The Third Route by Sir Philip Sassoon is a record of the trip from England to India by aeroplane. He calls it the third route, telling how the first was opened by Vasco da Gama when he rounded the Cape of Good Hope and the second by De Lesseps when he constructed the Suez Canal; and now the third route by aeroplane and flying-boat, which the author considers the most comfortable of them all.

The history of the game of polo is set forth in *American Polo* by Newell Brent, a well-known player and authority on the game.

Max von Boehn writes *Modes and Manners: Ornaments* to describe to us some of the ways in which men and women have ornamented themselves.